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BRIDGWATER PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT

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Bridgwater Port Health Authority

SECTION I - Staff

TABLE A

Name of Officer	Nature of Appointment	Date of Appointment	Qualifications	Any other Appointments held
R.H. Watson	Medical Officer of Health	31.7.47	M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.	M.O.H. Bridgwater Borough & Rural District. M.O.H. Burnham- on-Sea U.D.C. Divisional School Medical Officer Somerset C.C.
R.K. Lean	Port Health Inspector	1.4.43	R.S.I. Cert. as Sanitary Inspector. R.S.I. Cert. as Inspector of Meat and other Foods.	Chief Sanitary Inspector - Borough of Bridgwater.

Address of Medical Officer of Health :-

Health Department,  
Albert Street  
Bridgwater,  
Somerset.

Telephone number of Medical Officer  
of Health :-

Office - Bridgwater 2689  
Residence - Bridgwater 3028



Town Hall,

BRIDGWATER.

February, 1954.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Bridgwater Port Health Authority.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report for the year ended 31st  
December, 1953.

The number of coastwise ships using the Port during  
the year has increased, although the total tonnage has  
decreased slightly.

There have been approximately twice the number of  
ships from foreign ports visiting the Port as compared  
with the previous year.

The inspections carried out have not revealed any  
serious defects, whilst no rats were found on any vessel.

R.K. LEAN,

Port Health Inspector.



## SECTION II

Amount of shipping entering the district during the year 1953

TABLE B

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number Inspected		Number of ships reported as having, or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Sanitary Inspector	
Foreign Ports	27	5,688	4	27	Nil
Coastwise	498	45,183	-	54	Nil
Total	525	50,871	4	81	Nil

## SECTION III

Character of shipping and trade during the year

TABLE C

PASSENGER TRAFFIC	{	Number of passengers INWARDS	10
	{	Number of passengers OUTWARDS	8
CARGO TRAFFIC	{	Principal IMPORTS	Coal, Flour, Sand, Timber and Dried Milk
	{	Principal EXPORTS	Bricks and Tiles
PRINCIPAL Ports from which ships arrive	{	Foreign-	Antwerp, Bremen and Baltic Ports
	{	Coastwise-	Cork, Dungarvan and Bristol
	{	Channel Ports	

## SECTION IV

Inland barge traffic

There is no inland barge traffic.





## SECTION V

### Water supply

- (1) Source of supply for the district and shipping is the Bridgwater Corporation supply obtained from streams in the Quantock Hills.
- (2) Samples are taken monthly for bacteriological examination and all have given excellent results.
- (3) Hydrants and hosepipes are inspected and the hosepipes at the Bridgwater Docks were renewed during the year.
- (4) There are no water boats in the Port.

## SECTION VI

### Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952

#### (1) List of Infected Areas

A weekly record of quarantinable diseases is received from the Ministry of Health, and is available at the Health Department.

#### (2) & (3) Radio and other Messages

Bridgwater is not a radio transmitting Port, but messages can be received by radio telephone via the Ships Agents, Messrs. Hunt & Co..

#### (4) Mooring Stations

- (a) The Maritime Declarations of Health are handed to the Captain on arrival, completed and returned to the Port Health Inspector.
- (b) All vessels from foreign ports are boarded by the Port Health Inspector immediately on arrival.
- (c) The Customs Officer notifies the Port Medical Officer, or Port Health Inspector of the times of arrival of all vessels from foreign ports.
- (d) Mooring stations designated under Articles 22-30
  - (i) The Northside of the Bridgwater Dock
  - (ii) The vessels will be breasted off the quay, with gangways off, at the place of mooring.

#### (e) Standard exemptions issued to :-

- (i) Vessels unhealthy by reason of minor infectious diseases on board, e.g., Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Tuberculosis and Pneumonia.



- (ii) Vessels otherwise clean which have arrived from a listed port in an infectious area.
- (5) (a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases other than smallpox is as follows :-

Cases of Plague, Cholera and Yellow Fever by arrangement with the South West Regional Hospital Board. Cases of other infectious disease, Taunton Isolation Hospital.

- (b) Surveillance and following up of contacts carried out by the Port Medical Officer.
- (c) Cleansing and disinfection of Ships, persons clothing and other articles carried out under the supervision of the Port Health Inspector.

## SECTION VII

### Smallpox

- (1) Cases of Smallpox are sent to Ham Green Isolation Hospital, Bristol.
- (2) The transport of such cases to hospital would be by an ambulance attached to the Hospital.
- (3) Smallpox consultants available are Dr. J. Coates, Bridgwater, and Dr. Macrae, Ham Green Isolation Hospital, Bristol.
- (4) Laboratory investigations on suspected cases of smallpox are carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service.

## SECTION VIII

### Venereal Diseases

Clinics are held each Thursday as follows :-

Males	5.00 - 6.30 p.m.
Females	2.00 - 4.30 p.m.

In-patient treatment is available at Frenchay Hospital, Bristol

Particulars of treatment facilities in the Bristol Channel Ports are displayed at all wharves and docks.



## SECTION IX

### Cases of notifiable and other infectious diseases on ships

#### TABLE D

There have been no cases of infectious disease dealt with during the year,

## SECTION X

### Observations on the occurrence of malaria in ships

No action.

## SECTION XI

### Measures taken against ships infected with or suspected for plague

No action.

## SECTION XII

### Measures against rodents in ships from foreign ports

- (1) Ships arriving from foreign ports are inspected for the presence of rats and Certificates examined.
- (2) No rats were sent for bacteriological or pathological examination.
- (3) Any ships found to be infested with rats would be treated by one of the Corporation Rodent Operators.
- (4) No rat proofing of ships carried out.

#### TABLE E

No rats were found in ships from foreign ports.

#### TABLE F

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates are not issued.

1. The first part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the  
general principles of the theory of the  
relativity of simultaneity.

2. In the second part

the author

discusses the

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relativity

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SECTION XIII

Inspection of ships for nuisances

TABLE G

Inspections and Notices

Nature & Number of Inspections		Notices Served		Result of Serving Notices
		Statutory Notices	Other Notices	
British	50	-	2	Nuisances Abated
Foreign	32	-	-	-
Total	82	-	2	-

SECTION XIV

Public Health (Shell-Fish) Regulations, 1934 & 1948

There are no shell-fish beds or layings within the jurisdiction of the Authority.

SECTION XV

Medical Inspection of Aliens

The Port is not approved for the landing of Aliens.

SECTION XVI

Miscellaneous

Arrangements for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious disease.

Bodies would be removed to the Borough Mortuary and, if necessary, burial would be undertaken by the appropriate Local Authority.

